

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 USIE-00  
EURE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 INRE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00  
/042 W  
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O R 021535Z MAR 77  
FM USMISSION USBERLIN  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4145  
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

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E.O.11652: N/A  
TAGS: PGOV, SWEL, US WB  
SUBJECT: LORENZ APPEAL FOR AID TO US COLD VICTIMS

REF: BONN 3621

1. PRESIDENT LORENZ CALLED ON USCOB AT 11 A.M. WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2, TO PRESENT CERTIFICATE ATTESTING TO FACT THAT DM 1.36 MILLION ( APPROXIMATELY \$570,000) HAD BEEN COLLECTED BY GERMAN RED CROSS IN RESPONSE TO LORENZ'S APPEAL TO BERLINERS TO MAKE DONATIONS FOR RELIEF OF US VICTIMS OF RECENT COLD WEATHER. CEREMONY WAS COVERED LIVE BY BOTH GERMAN TV NETWORKS AND RADIO FREE BERLIN ( SFB). AFN AND RIAS RECORDED EVENT FOR LATER BROADCAST. APPROXIMATELY 30 REPS OF US AND GERMAN PRESS ALSO COVERED EVENT. NUMEROUS HOUSE OF REPS AND US OFFICIALS ALSO ATTENDED PRESENTATION,AS DID REPS OF GERMAN AND AMERICAN RED CROSS.

2. PRIOR TO PRESENTING CERTIFICATE, LORENZ SPOKE FOR APPROXIMATELY FIFTEEN MINUTES NOTING INTER ALIA THAT BERLIN HAD MUCH FOR WHICH TO THANK US. HE CALLED BERLIN CONTRIBUTIONS " MODEST" EFFORT TO EXPRESS APPRECIATION. GENERAL MCDONOUGH ACCEPTED CERTIFICATE  
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FROM LORENZ AND NOTED THAT BERLIN CONTRIBUTIONS TO US COLD VICTIMS WERE SYMBOLIC OF GOOD GERMAN-AMERICAN RELATIONS IN CITY. FOLLOWING THIS, USCOB AND LORENZ JOINTLY CUT CAKE PREPARED BY SPECIAL TROOPS MESS HALL ON WHICH BERLIN BEAR WAS DEPICTED PRESENTING DM'S TO AMERICAN EAGLE. CAKE AND COFFEE WAS SERVED TO APPROXIMATELY 75 PARTICIPANTS AND SPECTATORS.

3. MISSION WOULD APPRECIATE CONFIRMATION THAT MONEY HAS REACHED AMERICAN RED CROSS AND WHETHER ANY OFFICIAL EXPRESSION OF APPRECIATION WILL BE FORTHCOMING AS RECOMMENDED BY AMBASSADOR STOESSEL IN REFTEL.

4. FYI: MISOFF TALKED TO DIRECTOR OF HOUSE OF REPS, HERR FEST (CDU) ON MARCH 1 ABOUT INADVISABILITY OF PLACING RESTRICTIONS ON HOW MONEY WAS TO BE SPENT. FEST SAID THAT LORENZ HAD NOT INTENDED MAKING STIPULATIONS; RATHER IN ANSWER TO PRESS QUERIES HE INDICATED HOW HE THOUGHT MONEY WOULD BE SPENT. NEVERTHELESS, FOLLOWING CEREMONY ON MARCH 2, LORENZ ASKED AMERICAN RED CROSS REP, MR. MATTSON, WHETHER FINAL REPORT ON UTILIZATION OF BERLIN DONATIONS COULD BE OBTAINED FROM ARC. MATTSON TOLD LORENZ HE WOULD PASS REQUEST ALONG TO HIS HEADQUARTERS. IN SEPARATE CONVERSATION WITH MISOFF, MATTSON SAID HE HAD BEEN KEEPING HIS HEADQUARTERS IN STUTTGART FULLY INFORMED ABOUT BERLIN APPEAL AND ARC STUTTGART IN TURN HAD BEEN COORDINATING WITH GERMAN RED CROSS. MATTSON THOUGHT STUTTGART HAD BEEN KEEPING ARC HEADQUARTERS WASHINGTON INFORMED. MISOFF TOLD MATTSON HE ASSUMED ARC WOULD HAVE NO TROUBLE PREPARING GENERAL REPORT FOR LORENZ ON HOW BERLIN DONATIONS WERE UTILIZED. LORENZ TOLD MINISTER HE WAS TOUCHED BY NUMEROUS LETTERS HE HAD RECEIVED FROM PEOPLE ALL OVER THE US EXPRESSING APPRECIATION FOR HIS INITIATIVE. HE SAID ONE COMMON THEME IN ALL LETTERS WAS THAT THIS WAS FIRST TIME AMERICANS HAD BEEN HELPED BY FRIENDS ABROAD. END FYI.  
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GEORGE

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## Message Attributes

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**Review Markings:**  
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